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CLAIMS

The following is claimed

1. Apparatus comprising:
 - 5 a flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said structure comprising textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable;
said textile material having warp yarns formed of polyester and having fill yarns formed of nylon; and
 - 10 means for pulling a cable into said structure.
2. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said pulling means extends longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.
- 15 3. The apparatus set forth in claim 2, wherein said textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.
- 20 4. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said textile material is a woven fabric.

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5. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said yarns have a denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.

5 6. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is formed from a single sheet of said textile material.

7. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse
10 direction.

8. The apparatus set forth in claim 1, wherein said structure is disposed within a conduit.

15 9. The apparatus set forth in claim 8, wherein a cable is disposed within said structure.

10. Apparatus comprising:

a conduit;

20 a flexible structure disposed within said conduit;

said flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said

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structure comprising woven textile material formed in such a way as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable;

said textile material having warp yarns formed of polyester in the range of 200 to 1000 denier;

5 said textile material having fill yarns formed of nylon in the range of 200 to 1000 denier; and

means for pulling a cable into said structure.

11. The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said flexible structure is formed
10 from a single sheet of woven textile material.

12. The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said pulling means extends longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape or rope.

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13. The apparatus set forth in claim 12, wherein said woven textile material and said pull tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for a given tensile load.

20 14. The apparatus set forth in claim 10, wherein said structure is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse

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direction.

15. Apparatus comprising:

a flexible structure configured to enclose and carry at least one cable, said
5 structure comprising a single sheet of textile material formed in such a way as to
define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable; and
means for pulling a cable into said structure.

16. The apparatus set forth in claim 15, wherein said pulling means extends
10 longitudinally through said channel, and is selected from the group consisting of tape
or rope.

17. The apparatus set forth in claim 16, wherein said textile material and said pull
tape or rope have respective values of elongation percentage that are substantially
15 equal for a given tensile load.

18. The apparatus set forth in claim 15, wherein said flexible structure is disposed
within a conduit.

20 19. Apparatus comprising:
a conduit;

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at least two separate flexible structures disposed within said conduit;
each said flexible structure comprising textile material formed in such a way
as to define at least one longitudinal channel configured to enclose and carry a cable.

5 20. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, further comprising means for pulling a
cable into at least one of said structures.

21. The apparatus set forth in claim 20, wherein said pulling means is a pull tape
or rope.

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22. The apparatus set forth in claim 21, wherein said pull tape or rope and said
textile material exhibit values of elongation percentage that are substantially equal for
a given tensile load.

15 23. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a melting
temperature of at least about 220 degrees C.

24. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is a woven
fabric.

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25. The apparatus set forth in claim 24, wherein said woven textile material includes monofilament yarns.

26. The apparatus set forth in claim 25, wherein said monofilament yarns have a
5 denier in the range of 200-1000 denier.

27. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein a cable extends longitudinally through at least one of said channels, said cable having an outer sheath that has a first melting temperature, and said textile material having a second melting temperature
10 not lower than said first melting temperature.

28. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said flexible structures is formed in such a way as to define at least two longitudinal channels, each configured to enclose and carry a cable.

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29. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a transversely directed crimp resistance recovery angle within a range of about 50 degrees to about 130 degrees.

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30. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is a fabric made from yarns selected from the group consisting of polyester, nylon and combinations thereof.

5 31. The apparatus set forth in claim 30, wherein said fabric comprises warp yarns formed of polyester and having fill yarns formed of nylon.

32. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits a longitudinal tensile strength of at least about 12.5 pounds per inch of width.

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33. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a longitudinal tensile strength within the range of about 12.5 pounds per inch of width to about 300 pounds per inch of width.

15 34. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 75 percent at a peak tensile load.

35. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 40 percent at peak tensile load.

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36. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material exhibits an elongation percentage of not greater than about 25 percent at peak tensile load.

37. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said flexible
5 structures is resiliently biased toward an open channel configuration and is also readily collapsible in a transverse direction.

38. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material has a coefficient of friction, based on high density polyethylene on said material with a
10 longitudinal line of action, below about 0.1250.

39. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein said textile material is selected so that a 0.25 inch diameter polypropylene rope will not burn through a test sample of said structure when pulled through said test sample in a pull line duct cutting test at
15 100 feet per minute and 450 pounds tension for at least 90 seconds.

40. The apparatus set forth in claim 19, wherein at least one of said structures is formed from a single sheet of said textile material.